

COMMENDING KEVIN M. BERKEN, FOR BEING SELECTED RICE FARMER OF THE YEAR FOR THE 2011 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL IN CROWLEY, LA.

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 13, 2011*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to Kevin M. Berken for being selected Rice Farmer of the Year for the 2011 International Rice Festival in Crowley, Louisiana.

For 15 years, Kevin has been farming rice and soybean crops, contributing to the active agricultural base in Louisiana. Growing up on a farm, he has long been familiar with the intricacies of agricultural production. Since 1996, his operation has steadily increased to over 1,300 acres of rice, 500 acres of soybean, and 200 acres of wheat.

Actively involved in the agricultural community, Kevin is chairman and co-founder of the Louisiana Rice Political Action Committee, and chairman of the Louisiana Rice Promotion Board. His community involvement extends to several other farming and rice related organizations including the Louisiana Farm Bureau.

Before continuing the family tradition of farming, Kevin moved to San Diego, California to begin a real estate career. It was there he met his wife, Shirley, and in 1997, they had a son named Adam. After years of success in the real estate arena, the Berkens moved back to Louisiana to continue his real estate ventures. However, learning his father had been diagnosed with cancer, Kevin decided to forgo acquiring a Louisiana real estate license and instead turned toward farming.

Kevin graduated from St. Maria Goretti Catholic School in Lake Arthur in 1979, and in 2003, went on to earn his Bachelor of Science from McNeese State University. While attending McNeese, he belonged to Delta Tau Alpha Agricultural Honor Society.

I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Kevin M. Berken for his dedication to the continued agricultural excellence of Louisiana and congratulate him on being named 2011 Rice Farmer of the Year. I am honored to be his representative in Congress.

**RECOGNIZING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. KEVIN YODER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 13, 2011*

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While I'm sure I am not the only member to come before you and recognize the importance of breast cancer research, I feel it is necessary for me to discuss the benefits that come from continued funding for a disease that affects 300,000 women every year.

Aside from recognizing the important work done by the many Breast Cancer Organizations around the country, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the Breast Cancer Survivorship Center that is part of the Univer-

sity of Kansas Cancer Center. While the KU Cancer Center does important research into early detection and treatment of breast cancer, the Survivorship Center is an important facility for women who have been diagnosed and have gone through or are currently being treated for breast cancer. Specifically, this facility helps women cope with various treatments, assists them with complications, helps them to manage side effects. I applaud the KU Cancer Center for the tremendous progress they have made and the thousands of lives they have saved.

One of the most reassuring aspects of discussing breast cancer is when we can talk about survivors. The continued decrease in the mortality rate of women diagnosed with breast cancer is due in large part to remaining focused on the need to find a cure. The progress that has been made in finding a cure for breast cancer has been made possible through very generous donations by the American public, but also through funding for National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I am pleased that Appropriations Committee Chairman HAL ROGERS and Subcommittee Chairman DENNIS REBERG recognized the value of the work being performed by the NIH. I am particularly pleased that the House version of the FY 2012 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill provides robust funding for NIH, and its efforts to fight cancer. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee as the House and Senate negotiate the FY 2012 Appropriations bills.

**HONORING STEVE JOBS**

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 13, 2011*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life or "dots" as Steve Jobs, co-founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Apple, would say. Jobs was a visionary and creative genius, who believed that everything in life is interconnected, bringing us products that bring our whole worlds into our pockets.

Jobs' dedication and tireless devotion to creating the perfect user experience spurred and redefined the digital age, leading to a cultural transformation in the way the world communicates. This is ever so true here in our Congressional hallways, where Apple has provided most Members a communications face-lift. Jobs' leadership at Apple has changed the way we do business here in Washington, but also in the news, music and telecommunications industries.

Jobs' childhood dream of putting "a ding in the universe" has become true and for this, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the "dots" of Steve Jobs' legacy.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 13, 2011*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Peter's Episcopal Church located in the Town of Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates the 100th Anniversary of its consecration.

On January 1, 1827, 38 men and women gathered at the Morristown Baptist Church to incorporate St. Peter's Episcopal Church. After naming the church's first permanent rector, ground for the new church was broken in May of 1828, making it the first stone building in Morristown. By 1881, the original building was becoming inadequate for the growing congregation, and under the supervision of a member of the congregation, plans were made for a new church building. On April 11, 1887, ground broke for the new St. Peter's Episcopal Church and the corner stone was laid on All Saints' Day that same year.

To finance construction, the new church was built in four stages. The first two steps, completed in 1892, included the sanctuary, chapel, choir crossings, vestries and nave. The tower was completed in 1908 and the parish hall in 1911. On November 2, 1911 the new St. Peter's Episcopal Church building was officially consecrated.

St. Peter's is a place of welcome and comfort to those in need. Outreach and ministries are cornerstones of the church that reach into the community. St. Peter's has either been a founder or founding member of vital organizations such as the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown, Hospitality Link, the Interfaith Food Pantry and Morris County Career Network.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is a vital part of the local community as it provides an intimate place where people with common beliefs and values can join together in prayer and worship. It is a place where people can become involved in their community and give back to others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church as they celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church's consecration.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE WELFARE INTEGRITY ACT OF 2011**

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 13, 2011*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the gross misuse of taxpayer money by continuing to provide benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to recipients who test positive for illegal drug use or are convicted of drug related crimes.

At a time when Congress is focused on trimming budgets, it is imperative we focus on eliminating irresponsible funding. That is why I